

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10, on page 7, as follows:

Identical components in Figure 2 have been given the same reference numbers as used in Figure 1. The actuator 12 is essentially mushroom-shaped. The stem of the mushroom is constructed as a valve rod 16, which extends from the region of the mushroom cap up to the sealing surface 17 having an opening 14a for the passage of fluid from the pressure control space 14. The diameter of the valve rod 16 is selected so that the face surface just covers the opening 14a for the passage of fluid and thus forms a sealing seat on the sealing surface 17. It can be seen easily that the length of the valve rod 16 is a multiple of its diameter. The pressure control space 14 is connected over a throttle borehole with the high-pressure duct system of the injection valve. At the housing, the actuator 12 is mounted axially displaceably by the valve rod 16 in an upper guide bushing 15o and a lower guide bushing 15u. Moreover, the lower guide bushing 15u is disposed so that there is only a small distance between the lower end of the valve rod 16, which is constructed as an actuator surface 16a, and the bottom edge of the lower guide bushing 15u. The annular space 18, which is formed there, is connected with a low-pressure fluid connection 19 of the injection valve. In the closed position of the electromagnetic control valve, shown in Figure 2, the actuator sealing surface 16a of the valve rod 16 closes off the borehole 14a. An annular collar, surrounding the valve rod 16 concentrically in the region of the mushroom cap of the actuator 12, is constructed as an actuator stop surface 12a and rests on the upper plane surface 120 of the bushing 15o. In the closed position of the electromagnetic control valve that is shown, the valve actuator 12, together with the magnet armature 11, is acted upon by a compression spring, the details of which are not shown and which presses the actuator 12 against the sealing surface 17 and onto the upper side of the upper guide bushing 15o, which acts as reference stop for the stop surface 12a of the actuator 12. If electric power is supplied to the electric magnet 10, the magnetic armature 11 pulls the actuator 12 up against the force of the compression spring. As a result, the

borehole 14a for the passage of fluid is opened, and a pressure decrease results in the control pressure space 14, which brings about a lifting of the valve needle 20 and, with that, an injection. When the power is switched off, the force of the compression spring knocks the valve actuator 12, together with the armature of the magnet 11, downward. Moreover, the stop surface 12a of the actuator 12, which is much larger than sealing surface 16a of the actuator of the valve rod 16, acts strictly as a damping and stop surface for decaying the mass forces of the magnet armature and of the valve actuator. At the lower end of the valve rod 16, the very much smaller sealing surface 16a of the actuator 12 takes over the function of a sealing seat and, because of the small surface itself, does so with great accuracy and without the risk of leakages even at extremely high control pressures.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3, on page 9, as follows:

The risk of leakage in a conventional injection valve is indicated by means of a greatly enlarged representation of Figure 3. The structure of this valve is similar to that shown in Figures 1 and 2, with the difference that the opening 14a for the passage of fluid, which is connected to the control pressure space 14, is at housing surface 13, which has the function of both a stop and a sealing surface. The valve actuator 12 once again has a mushroom shape, but does not have the inventive valve rod 16. In order for the damping and impact effect of the valve actuator 12 not to become too small, the diameter  $\underline{d}$  of the sealing seat and impact surface is selected to be clearly larger than the diameter of the opening 14a for the passage of fluid. Therefore, there is the risk that an angular error  $\underline{f}$ , that is, a deviation of the sealing and stop surface from precisely a right angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the valve actuator 12 may produce, a small gap  $\underline{s}$ , even when the valve actuator 12 is in contact with the housing surface 13. Such a small gap can result in a permanent drop in pressure in the high pressure region 14.